



See page 5 for Year of the NCO article.

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for May 6, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



Installation commander hosts retreat ceremony

The commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Maj. Gen. Paul S. Izzo invites the entire military and civilian community to a retreat ceremony May 1 at McBride Field on the Edgewood Area of APG to honor the American flag and the values it represents.

Military personnel should wear their duty uniform; civilians should wear a business suit.

Those planning to attend should arrive no later than 4:45 p.m.

For more information, call Robert DiMichele, RDECOM Public Affairs, 410-436-8797.

APG hosts Armed Forces Day, May 16

APG will once again host Armed Forces Day activities on the installation May 16. The event is free and open to the public. Events include an Armed Forces Day 10K Run; a flyover of rotary wing aircraft from the Maryland Army and Air National Guard; a resigning of the Army Family Covenant and a Pageant of Army uniforms by the Non-commissioned officers Academy to honor 2009 being named the Year of the NCO by the Department of the Army; displays and exhibits of modern-day and futuristic military vehicles, equipment, weapons and technology, which will include Future

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Army Family Covenant

Protecting against a pandemic outbreak

<http://chppm-www.aapgea.army.mil>

According to the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management Web site, www.acsim.army.mil, a pandemic may affect daily life for a period of time and could include school and business closings as well as disruptions of the economy and everyday functions.

To be considered a pandemic the new virus must appear in people, cause serious illness and spread easily from person to person. On average, pandemics occur every 30 to 40 years. The last pandemic appeared in 1968, and medical experts believe one may occur in the near future.

Because flu vaccines are produced from known viruses, a vaccine to prevent a new flu virus may not be available during the early stages of a pan-



dem and people of all ages may be at risk for serious illness or death.

Influenza is spread in the air by respiratory droplets from coughs and sneezes and by direct contact with these droplets.

Current plans for pandemic

flu include improving surveillance and monitoring for the appearance of new flu viruses, stockpiling of antiviral drugs, use of new vaccines when available and improving communications about the threat, including its prevention.

Preventive measures

- Update flu shots and other vaccinations to boost immunity.
- Get vaccinated every year; the vaccine is changed along with the mutating flu virus to help fight the most threatening strain.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water.
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Teach children flu prevention hygiene.
- Properly cook poultry to destroy all germs, including the avian flu virus.

ReadyArmy reminds Soldiers, civilians, contractors, retirees, Guard and Reserve and all Family members to start preparing today for an emergency. The three simple steps to preparation are:

See **PANDEMIC**, page 7

APG benefits from federal economic stimulus plan

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Monies from the federal economic stimulus plan that was approved by Congress Jan. 28 have trickled down to Aberdeen Proving Ground where much needed repairs and upgrades are underway or are in the planning stages.

The funding will go a long way toward helping the post prepare for

the projected influx of thousands of new employees due to base realignment and closure as well as tend to long-needed upgrades to post facilities and infrastructure, according to Mike Lupacchino, director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

“We had already started projects we were looking at to improve facilities that hadn’t been renovated in many years,” Lupacchino said. “When this

came down, we were able to expand that into other areas.”

Current FMWR renovations underway or planned include improvements to both recreation centers, to Hoyle Gym in the Edgewood Area, to the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, Top of the Bay and the Child Development and Youth centers.

Lupacchino said all projects are renovations, some to the infrastructure – heating, venti-

lation or electrical – and some physical aesthetics to ceilings, flooring, painting walls, etc.

“The good thing is it would have taken many years to get these projects approved through the normal construction project process,” Lupacchino said. “Another thing is that due to the increases we will see in BRAC, it will allow us to have better facilities. For instance, at the CDC,

See **STIMULUS**, page 7

Obama announces joint virtual lifetime electronic record

Story by
DONNA MILES
American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama announced plans April 9 to create a joint virtual lifetime electronic record that will improve care and services to transitioning veterans by smoothing the flow of medical records between the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments.

The concept, long advocated by officials in both departments, is considered a major step toward improving the delivery of care and services to service members transitioning from military to civilian life.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki flanked the president as he described the initiative to an audience of wounded warriors, veterans and veterans service organization leaders.

The goal, he said, is simple and straightforward.

“When a member of the armed forces separates from the military, he or she will no longer have to walk paperwork from a [Defense Department] duty station to a local VA health center,” Obama explained. “Their electronic records will transition along with them and remain with them forever.”

No comprehensive system is currently in place to streamline the transition of health records between the two departments, the president noted.

“And that results in extraordinary hardship for an awful lot of veterans who end up finding their records lost [or] unable to get their benefits processed in a timely fashion,” he said.

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Photo by STEVE LUSHER, CAMBER CORPORATION
Brigadier General Jess A. Scarbrough, left, receives the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense flag from Lt. Gen. N. Ross Thompson III, principal military deputy, office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), and passes it to Lt. Col. Harry R. Culclasure, product manager - consequence management, for Joint Project Manager Guardian during a Change of Charter ceremony April 17 signifying the assumption of authority.

Promotion leads to appointment as JPEO for Chemical, Biological Defense

Story by
JULIUS L. EVANS
JPEO-CBD

The Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense headquartered in Falls Church, Va., recently experienced a change in leadership. Brigadier General Jess A. Scarbrough was promoted on March 27, and a ceremony on April 17 placed him at the reigns of an organization that is the single focal point for research, development, acquisition, fielding, and life-cycle support of chemical and biological defense equipment and medical countermeasures for the Department of Defense.

During the ceremony, attended by more

than 250 close friends and Family members, Scarbrough reflected solemnly on the moment of his promotion when he said, “I accept this honor with great humility, quiet confidence and a strong sense of responsibility.”

The Change of Charter ceremony held April 17, transferred authority from Maj. Gen. Stephen Reeves to Scarbrough as the JPEO. During that same ceremony, Reeves retired after more than 35 years of service in the U.S. Army.

About Scarbrough

Before becoming the JPEO, Scarbrough

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ACS to host Military Spouse Appreciation Day May 6

ACS

In recognition of the men and women who have served their country in uniform, the Army pays tribute to all military spouses as essential to the strength of the nation marking May as National Military Appreciation Month.

“We are very grateful to our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen for their commitment to preserving freedom and democracy in our nation and throughout the world,” said Celestine Beckett, director, Army Community Service. “As we salute service members past and present, it is only fitting to recognize those who support them and help make their service possible.”

In honor of Military Spouse Appreciation Day, ACS will have an information table and free Spouse Appreciation gift bags, Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 6, in the ACS lobby, building 2754. Everyone is invited.

“We salute you, our silent heroes,” Beckett added.

For more information, contact Marilyn Howard, ACS, 410-278-9669.

14 inducted into 2009 Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame

OC&S

This year, the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps will induct 14 individuals whose excellence, in their field, has brought recognition to them by their peers for outstanding achievements deserving of the Corps’ highest honor - Induction into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame May 7 at the Ordnance Museum.

The Chief of Ordnance, Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, extends to these inductees, their Families and to the Ordnance Corps, congratulations on their selection.

Historical honorees: Bernard M. Baruch, Louis Dellamonica, Henry C. Hodges Sr. and Maj. Gen. John C. Raen Jr.

Contemporary honorees: Lt. Gen. Richard Hack, Maj. Gen. Ray McCoy, Maj. Gen. Joseph Raffiani, Col. Patrick Button, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Michael Campbell, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bas-kum LeMaster, Command Sgts. Maj. Michael Ayers, David Stewart, Tyler Walker II and Karen Farren.

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